United Nations A/57/549

General Assembly

Distr.: General
3 December 2002

Original: English

Fifty-seventh session
Agenda item 102

Advancement of women

Report of the Third Committee

Rapporteur: Ms. Oksana **Boiko** (Ukraine)

I. Introduction

1. At its 19th plenary meeting, on 20 September 2002, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include in the agenda of its fifty-seventh session the item entitled "Advancement of women" and to allocate it to the Third Committee.

2. The Committee held a substantive debate on the item jointly with item 103 at its 12th to 16th and 19th meetings from 9 to 11 and on 14 October and considered proposals and took action on item 102 at its 22nd, 23rd, 26th, 31st, 46th, 51st and 54th meetings, on 17, 21, 24 and 31 October and on 12, 15 and 19 November. An account of the Committee's discussion is contained in the relevant summary records (A/C.3/57/SR.12-16, 19, 22, 23, 26, 31, 46, 51 and 54).

3. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Relevant sections of the report of the Economic and Social Council for 2002;[1]

(b) Report of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women on the work of its twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions;[2]

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour (A/57/169);

[1] A/57/3 (Parts I and II); for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 3* (A/57/3/Rev.1).

[2] A/57/38 (Parts I and II); for the final text, see *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/57/38).

02-72024 (E) 121202

(d) Report of the Secretary-General on trafficking in women and girls (A/57/170);

(e) Report of the Secretary-General on the elimination of all forms of violence against women, including crimes identified in the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century" (A/57/171);

(f) Report of the Working Group on the Future Operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/57/330 and Add.1);

(g) Report of the Secretary-General on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (A/57/406 and Corr.1);

(h) Report of the Secretary-General on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system (A/57/447);

(i) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report on the activities of the United Nations Development Fund for Women (A/57/125);

(j) Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/57/129-E/2002/77);

(k) Note by the Secretary-General on the situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/57/452);

(l) Letter dated 23 September 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Venezuela to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/57/432);

(m) Letter dated 15 October 2002 from the Permanent Representative of Argentina to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General (A/C.3/57/4).

4. At the 12th meeting, on 9 October, statements were made by the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women of the Secretariat and the Interim Manager/Director of the International Training and Research Institute for the Advancement of Women (INSTRAW) (see A/C.3/57/SR.12).

5. At the same meeting, the Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women and the Interim Manager/Director of INSTRAW responded to questions raised by the representatives of Venezuela and Spain (see A/C.3/57/SR.12).

6. Also at the same meeting, a statement was made by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (see A/C.3/57/SR.12).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.16 and Rev.1

7. At the 22nd meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Mexico, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Future operation of

the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/57/L.16), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Recalling* its previous resolutions on the subject, particularly resolution 55/219 of 23 December 2000 and resolution 56/125 of 19 December 2001,

"*Recalling also* that, in its resolution 56/125, it decided to establish a working group mandated to make recommendations to the General Assembly on the future operation of the Institute,

"1. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group on the Future Operation of the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women which, inter alia, reaffirms the mandate of the Institute in the field of gender equality and the advancement of women and stresses the need for it to be reformed and revitalized;

"2. *Endorses* the recommendations made by the Working Group on the future operations of the Institute;

"3. *Decides* to link the Institute to the Department of Economic and Social Affairs of the United Nations Secretariat, under the direct authority of the Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs;

"4. *Decides also*, in connection with paragraph 3 above, to take the following measures:

"(a) To establish a liaison unit of the Institute within the Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

"(b) To create the post of Deputy Director with specific fund-raising responsibilities;

"(c) To allocate an amount of 500,000 United States dollars from the regular budget of the United Nations to finance the core activities of the Institute;

"(d) To examine the feasibility of establishing an advisory board composed of Member States in order to replace the Board of Trustees;

"(e) To maintain the headquarters of the Institute in the Dominican Republic;

"5. *Requests* the Economic and Social Council to amend the statute of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women, where necessary, in order to permit the implementation of the measures contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 above;

"6. *Acknowledges* that the measures contained in paragraphs 3 and 4 above should be undertaken as provided within the context of the Secretary-General's reform programme, as outlined in his report of 14 July 1997 and in accordance with the recommendations contained in section VI.D of the report;

"7. *Calls upon* the Institute to take concrete measures in order to revitalize its activities and to work closely and in a coordinated manner with other United Nations bodies working in the field of gender equality and the advancement of women, particularly the Division for the Advancement of

Women, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Commission for the Status of Women;

"8. *Urges* the Institute to intensify its fund-raising efforts and to diversify its funding sources to include private foundations, inter-agency and inter-institutional collaborations, among others;

"9. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the United Nations International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women in order to enable it to carry out its mandate;

"10. *Urges* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, particularly during the critical transitional period;

"11. *Requests* the Secretary General:

"(a) To appoint, without delay, a Director to be chosen from among candidates who demonstrate knowledge in, inter alia, gender issues and social research;

"(b) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution."

8. At its 51st meeting, on 15 November, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women" (A/C.3/57/L.16/Rev.1), submitted by the representative of Venezuela, on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Mexico. Subsequently, Greece and Spain joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

9. At the same meeting, the Secretary of the Committee read out a statement by the Director of the Programme Planning and Budget Division of the Office of Programme Planning, Budget and Accounts in connection with the draft resolution, which was subsequently issued as document A/C.3/57/L.82.

10. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.16/Rev.1 by a recorded vote of 124 to 7, with 29 abstentions (see para. 34, draft resolution I). The voting was as follows:

In favour:

Afghanistan, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Bahamas, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bolivia, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Colombia, Comoros, Congo, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Gambia, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Liechtenstein, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Nepal, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay,

Peru, Philippines, Portugal, Qatar, Romania, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Samoa, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Somalia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Swaziland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Vanuatu, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Yemen, Yugoslavia, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

Against:

Australia, Canada, Israel, Japan, Netherlands, Republic of Korea, United States of America.

Abstaining:

Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Marshall Islands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Russian Federation, San Marino, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

11. Before the vote, statements were made by the representatives of Venezuela (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Group of 77 and China, and Mexico) and Spain (see A/C.3/57/SR.51).

12. Statements in explanation of vote were made before the vote by the representatives of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Czech Republic, Sweden, Japan, the United States of America, Canada and Denmark, and after the vote by the representatives of the Netherlands, the Republic of Korea and Liechtenstein (see A/C.3/57/SR.51).

13. Subsequently, a statement was made by the representative of the Dominican Republic (see A/C.3/57/SR.51).

B. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.17

14. At the 22nd meeting, on 17 October, the representative of the Philippines, on behalf of Afghanistan, Andorra, Argentina, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, Belgium, Benin, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Cape Verde, Chile, China, the Congo, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel, Italy, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Trinidad and Tobago, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Viet Nam, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Trafficking in women and girls" (A/C.3/57/L.17). Subsequently, Armenia, Belarus, Costa Rica, Djibouti, El Salvador,

Jamaica, Japan, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, Malaysia, Mozambique and Nicaragua joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

15. At the 46th meeting, on 12 November, the representative of the Philippines orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In the seventh preambular paragraph, the word "*Welcoming*" was replaced by the word "*Acknowledging*";

(b) Operative paragraph 8, which read:

"8. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, in all its forms, to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether their offence was committed in their own or in a foreign country, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody";

was replaced by the following:

"8. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, in all its forms, to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized for being trafficked, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody".

16. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.17, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 34, draft resolution II).

C. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.18

17. At the 23rd meeting, on 21 October, the representative of Suriname, on behalf of Barbados, Benin, Ethiopia, Grenada, Pakistan, the Philippines, Saint Lucia, Senegal, Suriname, Swaziland, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Situation of older women in society" (A/C.3/57/L.18). Subsequently, Antigua and Barbuda, the Bahamas, Bangladesh, Belize, China, Cuba, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominica, the Dominican Republic, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Kenya, Malawi, Malaysia, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Panama, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sierra Leone, Sri Lanka, Thailand and Uganda joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

18. At the 31st meeting, on 31 October, the representative of Suriname orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) In the first preambular paragraph, the phrase "and emphasizing their obligations under the human rights instruments, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Optional Protocol thereto" was replaced by the phrase "and guided by the purposes and principles of human rights instruments";

(b) In the second preambular paragraph, after the words "*Recalling* its resolution 44/76 of 8 December 1989 on elderly women", the words "and its resolution 56/126 of 19 December 2001 on the situation of older women in society" were added;

(c) After the fourth preambular paragraph, two paragraphs were inserted, reading:

"*Recognizing* that older women outnumber older men, increasingly so with increasing age, and that the situation of older women everywhere must be a priority for policy action",

"*Aware* that in order to ensure full equality between women and men it is essential to recognize the differential impact of ageing on women and men and to integrate a gender perspective into all policies, programmes and legislation",

(d) In the eighth preambular paragraph (former sixth), the words "assistance to victims of" were replaced by the words "assistance to those infected and affected by";

(e) In the eleventh preambular paragraph (former ninth), the words "including educational opportunities" were added at the end of the paragraph;

(f) In operative paragraph 4, the words "including the non-governmental organizations concerned" were replaced by the words "including non-governmental organizations, where appropriate";

(g) After operative paragraph 5, a new paragraph 6 was inserted, reading:

"6. *Welcomes* the adoption in April 2002 by the Valencia Forum of research and academic professionals of the Research Agenda on Ageing for the Twenty-First Century, to support the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing 2002",

and the remaining paragraphs were renumbered accordingly;

(h) In operative paragraph 7 (former 6), the words "including the non-governmental organizations concerned" were replaced by the words "including non-governmental organizations, where appropriate";

(i) Operative paragraph 8 (former 7), which read:

"8. *Calls upon* the international community to fully address the link between older women and development",

was replaced by the following:

"8. *Calls upon* Governments and the United Nations system to ensure that the needs, perspectives and experiences of older women are reflected in all development policies and programmes";

(j) In operative paragraph 9 (former 8), the words "for victims of HIV/AIDS" were revised to read "for those affected by HIV/AIDS";

(k) Former operative paragraph 9, which read:

"9. *Invites* Governments and the United Nations system to pay more attention to the situation of older women",

was deleted;

(l) In operative paragraph 10, the words "and to consider appointing a special rapporteur to deal with matters related to ageing", at the end of the paragraph, were deleted.

19. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.18, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 34, draft resolution III).

D. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.19

20. At the 22nd meeting, on 17 October, the representative of Sweden, on behalf of Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, the Congo, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liberia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Mozambique, Namibia, Nepal, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Togo, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women" (A/C.3/57/L.19). Subsequently, Barbados, Bolivia, Botswana, Cameroon, China, Colombia, El Salvador, Grenada, Guyana, Haiti, India, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Sao Tome and Principe, Sri Lanka and Tunisia joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

21. At the 26th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of Sweden orally revised the draft resolution by deleting, in operative paragraph 7, the words "or otherwise incompatible with international treaty law" after the words "purpose of the Convention"; and by deleting the words "or that are otherwise incompatible with international treaty law" at the end of the paragraph.

22. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.19, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 34, draft resolution IV).

23. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Singapore (see A/C.3/57/SR.26).

E. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.20 and Rev.1

24. At the 22nd meeting, on 17 October, the representative of the Netherlands, on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Australia, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Brazil, Bulgaria, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea-Bissau,

Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, Monaco, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Panama, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour" (A/C.3/57/L.20), which read:

"*The General Assembly*,

"*Reaffirming* the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of person, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, and reaffirming also their obligations under human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,

"*Recalling* the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women, as well as the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century',

"*Noting* its resolution 55/66 of 4 December 2000,

"*Bearing in mind* that crimes against women committed in the name of honour are a human rights issue and that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of such crimes and to provide protection to the victims, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

"*Stressing* the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls, including crimes committed in the name of honour, as a criminal offence, punishable by law,

"*Aware* that inadequate understanding of the root causes of all violence against women, including crimes committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, and inadequate data on such violence hinder informed policy analysis, at both the domestic and the international levels, and efforts to eliminate such violence,

"*Deeply concerned* that women and girls are victims of these crimes, as described in the relevant sections of the reports by the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and as reported by the Special Rapporteur of the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,

"*Emphasizing* that such crimes are incompatible with all religious and cultural values,

"*Bearing in mind* Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/52 of 23 April 2002,

"*Emphasizing* that the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour requires greater efforts and commitment from Governments and the international community, inter alia, through international cooperation efforts, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitude are required,

"*Underlining* the importance of the empowerment of women and their effective participation in decision-making and policy-making processes as one of the critical tools to eliminate and prevent crimes against women committed in the name of honour.

"1. *Welcomes*:

"(a) The activities and initiatives of States aimed at the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the adoption of amendments to relevant national laws relating to such crimes, the effective implementation of such laws and educational, social and other measures, including national information and awareness-raising campaigns;

"(b) The efforts, such as projects, undertaken by United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to address the issue of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, and encourages them to coordinate their efforts;

"(c) The work carried out by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, grass-roots movements and individuals, in raising awareness of such crimes and their harmful effects;

"2. *Expresses its concern* that women continue to be victims of crimes committed in the name of honour, and at the continuing occurrence in all regions of the world of such violence, which takes many different forms, and at failures to prosecute and punish perpetrators;

"3. *Calls upon* all States:

"(a) To fulfil their obligations under the relevant international human rights instruments and to implement the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;

"(b) To continue to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, by using legislative, administrative and programmatic measures;

"(c) To investigate promptly and thoroughly, prosecute effectively and document cases of crimes against women committed in the name of honour and punish the perpetrators;

"(d) To take all necessary measures aimed at ensuring that such crimes are not tolerated;

"(e) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to take place by involving, inter alia, community leaders;

"(f) To encourage the efforts of the media to engage in awareness-raising campaigns;

"(g) To encourage, support and implement measures and programmes aimed at increasing the knowledge and understanding of the causes and consequences of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the provision of training for those responsible for enforcing the law, such as police personnel, judicial and legal personnel, and to strengthen their capacity to respond to complaints of such crimes in an impartial and effective manner and take necessary measures to ensure the protection of actual and potential victims;

"(h) To continue to support the work of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing this issue and to strengthen cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

"(i) To establish, strengthen or facilitate, where possible, support services to respond to the needs of actual and potential victims by, inter alia, providing for them the appropriate protection, safe shelter, counselling, legal aid, health-care services, rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

"(j) To address effectively complaints of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, inter alia, by creating, strengthening or facilitating institutional mechanisms so that victims and others can report such crimes in a safe and confidential environment;

"(k) To gather and disseminate statistical information on the occurrence of such crimes, including information disaggregated by age;

"(l) To include, if within their reporting obligations, information on legal and policy measures adopted and implemented in their efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes committed against women in the name of honour, where appropriate, in their reports to the treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

"4. *Invites*:

"(a) The international community, including relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, inter alia, through technical assistance and advisory services programmes, to support the efforts of all countries, at their request, aimed at strengthening institutional capacity for preventing crimes against women committed in the name of honour and at addressing the root causes of such crimes;

"(b) The relevant human rights treaty bodies to continue to address this issue, where appropriate;

"(c) The Commission on the Status of Women to address this subject at its forty-seventh session under the priority theme 'Women's human rights, and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special

session of the General Assembly' entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century';

"5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour;

"6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the issue of elimination of violence against women to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a substantive report on the subject of the present resolution, based on all available data, containing an analysis of the root causes of these crimes, supportive statistical data, where available, and information on initiatives taken by States."

25. At its 26th meeting, on 24 October, the Committee had before it a revised draft resolution entitled "Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour" (A/C.3/57/L.20/Rev.1) submitted by the sponsors of draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.20 and on behalf of Albania, Andorra, Armenia, Benin, Bolivia, the Dominican Republic, Eritrea, Estonia, Ethiopia, the Gambia, Georgia, Ghana, Guinea-Bissau, Samoa, San Marino, Sierra Leone, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Uganda, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. Subsequently, Azerbaijan, Botswana, Colombia, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Haiti, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Namibia, Nicaragua, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Sao Tome and Principe, Swaziland, the United States of America, Uruguay, Vanuatu and Zimbabwe joined in sponsoring the revised draft resolution.

26. At the same meeting, the representative of the Netherlands further orally revised the draft resolution by deleting the third preambular paragraph, which read: "*Noting* its resolution 55/66 of 4 December 2000".

27. Also at the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.20/Rev.1, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 34, draft resolution V).

28. After the adoption of the draft resolution, statements were made by the representatives of Pakistan, Egypt and the Islamic Republic of Iran (see A/C.3/57/SR.26).

F. Draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.21

29. At the 22nd meeting, on 17 October, the representative of New Zealand, on behalf of Afghanistan, Andorra, Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bangladesh, Barbados, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Benin, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Cape Verde, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, the Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, the Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea-Bissau, Guyana, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, the Marshall Islands, Mauritius, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Norway, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, the Philippines, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea,

the Republic of Moldova, Romania, Saint Lucia, Samoa, San Marino, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Suriname, Swaziland, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Trinidad and Tobago, Tunisia, Turkey, Tuvalu, Uganda, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Zambia and Zimbabwe, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system" (A/C.3/57/L.21). Subsequently, Azerbaijan, Bolivia, Colombia, El Salvador, Grenada, India, Jamaica, Kyrgyzstan, Mali, Mauritania, Morocco, Sao Tome and Principe, Sri Lanka, the Sudan, the United States of America and Viet Nam joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

30. At the 26th meeting, on 24 October, the representative of New Zealand orally revised the draft resolution as follows:

(a) The sixth preambular paragraph, which read:

"*Welcoming also* the adoption by the Economic and Social Council of the system-wide medium-term plan for the advancement of women, 2002-2005",

was deleted;

(b) In operative paragraph 6 (f), the words "as outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action" were inserted after the words "the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women";

(c) In operative paragraph 6 (h) the words "To strengthen further the policy against harassment" were replaced by the words "To continue to work to further strengthen the policy against harassment".

31. At the same meeting, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.3/57/L.21, as orally revised, without a vote (see para. 34, draft resolution V).

32. After the adoption of the draft resolution, a statement was made by the representative of Japan (see A/C.3/57/SR.26).

G. Draft decision proposed by the Chairman

33. At its 54th meeting, on 19 November, on the proposal of the Chairman, the Committee decided to recommend to the General Assembly that it take note of the note by the Secretary-General on the situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women (A/57/129-E/2002/77) (see para. 35).

III. Recommendations of the Third Committee

34. The Third Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its previous resolutions on the subject, in particular resolutions 55/219 of 23 December 2000 and 56/125 of 19 December 2001,

Recalling also that, in its resolution 56/125, it decided to establish a working group mandated to make recommendations to the General Assembly on the future operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Working Group on the Future Operation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women,[3] in which, the Working Group, inter alia, reaffirmed the mandate of the Institute in the field of gender equality and the advancement of women and stressed the need for it to be reformed and revitalized;

2. *Endorses* the recommendations made by the Working Group on the future operation of the Institute, and requests the Secretary-General to implement the measures recommended by the Working Group in this regard;[4]

3. *Decides* to extend the mandate of the Working Group established by the General Assembly in its resolution 56/125 in order to follow up the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 2 above, in close consultation with the Secretary-General;

4. *Acknowledges* that the measures referred to in paragraph 2 above should be taken as provided within the context of the Secretary-General's programme for reform, as outlined in his report dated 14 July 1997[5] and in accordance with the recommendations contained in section VI.D of the report;

5. *Urges* the Institute to intensify its fund-raising efforts and to diversify its funding sources to include private foundations, inter-agency and inter-institutional collaborations, among others;

6. *Stresses* the critical importance of voluntary financial contributions by Member States to the United Nations Trust Fund for the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women to enable it to carry out its mandate;

7. *Urges* Member States to make voluntary contributions to the Trust Fund, particularly during the critical transitional period;

8. *Requests* the Working Group to submit a preliminary report on the follow-up to the implementation of the measures referred to in paragraph 2 above to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-seventh session, and to submit its final report thereon to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

---

[3] A/57/330 and Add.1.

[4] A/57/330, para. 57.

[5] A/51/950.

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General:

(a) To appoint, without delay, and in consultation with the Working Group, a Director to be chosen from among candidates who demonstrate knowledge and expertise in, inter alia, gender issues and social research;

(b) To report to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution II
Trafficking in women and girls

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the principles set forth in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[6] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[7] the International Covenants on Human Rights,[8] the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment,[9] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[10] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[11]

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly of the two Optional Protocols to the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[12] in particular the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[13] which entered into force on 18 January 2002,

Welcoming also the adoption by the General Assembly of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[14] which entered into force on 22 December 2000,

Recalling all previous resolutions on the problem of trafficking in women and girls adopted by the General Assembly, the Commission on the Status of Women, the Commission on Human Rights and the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, as well as the Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others,[15] the conclusions on violence against women adopted on 13 March 1998 by the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-second session[16] and the recommendations of the Working Group on Contemporary Forms of Slavery[17] adopted on 21 August 1998 by

---

[6] Resolution 217 A (III).
[7] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[8] Resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[9] Resolution 39/46, annex.
[10] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[11] See resolution 48/104.
[12] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.
[13] Ibid., annex I.
[14] Resolution 54/4.
[15] Resolution 317 (IV).
[16] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1998, Supplement No. 7* and corrigendum (E/1998/27 and Corr.1), chap. I.
[17] E/CN.4/1999/4-E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/45, chap. II, sect. A, resolution 1998/19, and E/CN.4/Sub.2/1998/14, sect. VI.B.

the Subcommission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities[18] at its fiftieth session,

Recalling also the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[19] in particular the resolve expressed by heads of State and Government to intensify efforts to fight transnational organized crime in all its dimensions, including trafficking in human beings,

Reaffirming the outcomes and commitments pertaining to trafficking in women and girls of recent United Nations conferences and summits, including the World Conference on Human Rights,[20] the International Conference on Population and Development,[21] the World Summit for Social Development,[22] the Fourth World Conference on Women[23] and the special session of the General Assembly on children[24] and their follow-up processes,

Acknowledging the inclusion of gender-related crimes in the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court,[25] which entered into force on 1 July 2002,

Welcoming the adoption by the General Assembly in November 2000 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[26] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children[27] and the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air,[28]

Recognizing the need to address the impact of globalization on the problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls,

Reaffirming that sexual violence and trafficking in women and girls for purposes of economic exploitation, sexual exploitation through prostitution and other forms of sexual exploitation and contemporary forms of slavery are serious violations of human rights,

Seriously concerned at the increasing number of women and children from developing countries and from some countries with economies in transition who are being trafficked to developed countries, as well as within and between regions and States, and acknowledging that the problem of trafficking also includes the victimizing of boys,

Recognizing that victims of trafficking are particularly exposed to racism, racial discrimination, xenophobia and related intolerance,

---

[18] Subsequently renamed the Subcommission on the Promotion and Protection of Human Rights (see Economic and Social Council decision 1999/256).

[19] See resolution 55/2.

[20] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[21] *Report of the International Conference on Population and Development, Cairo, 5-13 September 1994* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.95.XIII.18), chap. I, resolution 1, annex.

[22] *Report of the World Summit for Social Development, Copenhagen, 6-12 March 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.8), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[23] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[24] Resolution S-27/2, annex.

[25] A/CONF.183/9.

[26] Resolution 55/25, annex I.

[27] Ibid., annex II.

[28] Ibid., annex III.

Acknowledging that women and children who are victims of trafficking are further disadvantaged and marginalized by a general lack of information or awareness and recognition of their human rights and the fact that they are victims, as well as by the obstacles they meet in gaining access to information and recourse mechanisms in cases of violation of their rights, and that special measures are required for their protection and to increase their awareness,

Recognizing the importance of bilateral, subregional and regional cooperation mechanisms and initiatives of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to address the problem of trafficking in women and children within their region, in particular girls,

Welcoming the efforts of Governments and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in developing programmes to combat trafficking in human beings, in particular women and girls,

Acknowledging the work being done by intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in compiling information on the scale and complexity of the problem of trafficking, in providing protection and assistance for trafficked women and children, and in effecting their voluntary return to their countries of origin,

Recognizing that global efforts, including international cooperation and technical assistance programmes, to eradicate trafficking in persons, in particular women and children, demand the strong political commitment and the active cooperation of all Governments of countries of origin, transit and destination,

Recognizing also that a comprehensive and multidisciplinary approach to prevention, healing and reintegration is required and that all actors, including judicial and law enforcement personnel, migration authorities, victims of trafficking and their families, non-governmental organizations and civil society, should collaborate in the development of such an approach,

Deeply concerned about the unabated use of new information technologies, including the Internet, for purposes of exploitation of the prostitution of others and for child pornography, paedophilia and any other forms of sexual exploitation of children, trafficking in women as brides and sex tourism,

Gravely concerned at the increasing activities of transnational criminal organizations and others that profit from international trafficking in women and children without regard to dangerous and inhumane conditions and in flagrant violation of domestic laws and international standards,

Stressing once again the need for Governments to provide standard humanitarian treatment to trafficked persons consistent with human rights standards,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General on the activities of United Nations bodies and other international organizations pertaining to the problem of trafficking in women and girls;[29]

2. *Welcomes* the steps taken by human rights treaty bodies, the special rapporteurs and subsidiary bodies of the Commission on Human Rights, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, other United Nations

[29] A/57/170.

bodies and international, intergovernmental and governmental organizations, within their mandates, as well as non-governmental organizations, to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls, and encourages them to continue doing so and to share their knowledge and best practices as widely as possible;

3. *Also welcomes* the decision of the Commission on the Status of Women to consider at its forty-seventh session the priority theme "Women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'",[30] which will include issues relating to trafficking of women and girls;

4. *Urges* Governments to take appropriate measures to address the root factors, including external factors, that encourage trafficking in women and girls for prostitution and other forms of commercialized sex, forced marriages and forced labour, in order to eliminate trafficking in women, including by strengthening existing legislation with a view to providing better protection of the rights of women and girls and to punishing perpetrators, through both criminal and civil measures;

5. *Also urges* Governments to devise, enforce and strengthen effective measures to combat and eliminate all forms of trafficking in women and girls through a comprehensive anti-trafficking strategy consisting of, inter alia, capacity-building, legislative measures, prevention campaigns, information exchange, assistance and protection for and reintegration of the victims and prosecution of all the offenders involved, including intermediaries, and to draw up, as appropriate, national action plans and programmes to improve the protection of trafficked women and girls;

6. *Further urges* Governments to consider signing and ratifying relevant United Nations legal instruments such as the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[26] and the Protocols thereto, in particular the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[27] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[7] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[10] the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[14] and the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography,[13] as well as Convention No. 111 concerning discrimination in respect of employment and occupation, 1958, and Convention No. 182 concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, 1999, of the International Labour Organization;

7. *Encourages* Member States to conclude bilateral, subregional, regional and international agreements, as well as to undertake initiatives, including regional initiatives, to address the problem of trafficking in women and girls, such as the Action Plan for the Asia-Pacific region of the Asian Regional Initiative against Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children,[31] the initiatives of the European Union on a comprehensive European policy and programmes on

---

[30] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 7* (E/2002/27), chap. I.B, draft decision III.

[31] See A/C.3/55/3, annex.

trafficking in human beings, as expressed in the conclusions of the European Council at its meeting held at Tampere, Finland, on 15 and 16 October 1999, and the activities of the Council of Europe, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the International Organization for Migration in this field;

8. *Calls upon* all Governments to criminalize trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, in all its forms, to condemn and penalize all those offenders involved, including intermediaries, whether local or foreign, by the competent national authorities, either in the country of origin of the offender or in the country in which the abuse occurs, in accordance with due process of law, while ensuring that the victims of those practices are not penalized for being trafficked, and to penalize persons in authority found guilty of sexually assaulting victims of trafficking in their custody;

9. *Invites* Governments to consider setting up or strengthening a national coordinating mechanism, for example, a national rapporteur or an inter-agency body, with the participation of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, to encourage the exchange of information and to report on data, root causes, factors and trends in violence against women, in particular trafficking;

10. *Encourages* Governments and relevant United Nations bodies, within existing resources, to take appropriate measures to raise public awareness of the issue of trafficking, particularly of women and girls, as well as the laws, regulations and penalties relating to this issue, and to emphasize that trafficking is a crime, in order to reduce the demand for trafficked women and children;

11. *Urges* concerned Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to support and allocate resources for programmes to strengthen preventive action, in particular education and campaigns to increase public awareness of the issue at the national and grass-roots levels;

12. *Calls upon* concerned Governments to allocate resources, as appropriate, to provide comprehensive programmes for the physical, psychological and social recovery of victims of trafficking, including through job training, legal assistance and health care, and by taking measures to cooperate with non-governmental organizations to provide for the social, medical and psychological care of the victims;

13. *Encourages* Governments, in cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations, to undertake campaigns aimed at clarifying opportunities, limitations and rights in the event of migration so as to enable women to make informed decisions and to prevent them from becoming victims of trafficking;

14. *Also encourages* Governments to intensify collaboration with non-governmental organizations to develop and implement programmes for effective counselling, training and reintegration into society of victims of trafficking, and programmes that provide shelter and helplines to victims or potential victims;

15. *Calls upon* Governments to take steps to ensure that the treatment of victims of trafficking, especially women and girls, as well as all measures taken against trafficking in persons, in particular those that affect the victims of such trafficking, are applied with full respect for the human rights of those victims and are consistent with internationally recognized principles of non-discrimination,

including the prohibition of racial discrimination and the availability of appropriate legal redress;

16. *Invites* Governments to take steps, including witness protection programmes, to enable women who are victims of trafficking to make complaints to the police or other authorities as appropriate and to be available when required by the criminal justice system, and to ensure that during this time women have access to protection and social, medical, financial and legal assistance, as appropriate;

17. *Also invites* Governments to consider preventing, within the legal framework and in accordance with national policies, victims of trafficking, in particular women and girls, from being prosecuted for their illegal entry or residence, bearing in mind that they are victims of exploitation;

18. *Further invites* Governments to encourage Internet service providers to adopt or strengthen self-regulatory measures to promote the responsible use of the Internet with a view to eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls;

19. *Invites* the business sector, in particular the tourism and telecommunications industries, including mass media organizations, to cooperate with Governments in eliminating trafficking in women and children, in particular girls;

20. *Stresses* the need for a global approach to eradicate trafficking in women and children and the importance, in this regard, of systematic data collection and comprehensive studies using common methodology and internationally defined indicators, which need to be developed, to make it possible to gather relevant and comparable figures, and encourages Governments to develop systematic data-collection methods using such common methodology and indicators and to update continuously information on trafficking in women and girls, including the analysis of the modus operandi of trafficking syndicates;

21. *Urges* Governments to strengthen national programmes to combat trafficking in women and girls through sustained bilateral, regional and international cooperation, taking into account innovative approaches and best practices, and invites Governments, United Nations bodies and organizations, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the private sector to undertake collaborative and joint research and studies on trafficking in women and girls that can serve as a basis for policy formulation or change;

22. *Invites* Governments, once again, with the support of the United Nations, and taking into account current research and materials on traumatic stress and gender-sensitive counselling techniques, to formulate training manuals for law enforcement and medical personnel and judicial officers who handle cases of trafficked women and girls, with a view to sensitizing them to the special needs of victims;

23. *Urges* Governments to provide or strengthen training for law enforcement, immigration and other relevant officials in the prevention of trafficking in persons, which should focus on methods used in preventing such trafficking, prosecuting the traffickers and protecting the rights of victims, including protecting the victims from traffickers, to ensure that the training also takes into account the need to consider human rights and child- and gender-sensitive issues,

and to encourage cooperation with non-governmental organizations, other relevant organizations and other elements of civil society;

24. *Invites* States parties to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,[7] the Convention on the Rights of the Child[10] and the International Covenants on Human Rights[8] to include information and statistics on trafficking in women and girls as part of their national reports to their respective committees and to work towards developing a common methodology and statistics to obtain comparable data;

25. *Requests* the Secretary-General to compile, as reference and guidance, successful interventions and strategies in addressing the various dimensions of the problem of trafficking in women and children, in particular girls, based on reports, research and other materials from within the United Nations, including the Office on Drugs and Crime, as well as from outside the United Nations, and to submit a report on the implementation of the present resolution to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session;

26. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session proposals for a future international/United Nations year against trafficking in persons, especially women and girls, with a view to protecting their dignity and human rights.

Draft resolution III
Situation of older women in society

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligations of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms as stated in the Charter of the United Nations, and guided by the purposes and principles of human rights instruments,

Recalling its resolution 44/76 of 8 December 1989 on elderly women and its resolution 56/126 of 19 December 2001 on the situation of older women in society, Economic and Social Council resolutions 1982/23 of 4 May 1982 on elderly women and the World Assembly on Ageing and 1986/26 of 23 May 1986 and 1989/38 of 24 May 1989 on elderly women, and Commission on the Status of Women resolution 36/4 of 20 March 1992 on the integration of elderly women into development,[32]

Recalling also the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century"[33] and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action,[34] in particular their provisions regarding older women,

---

[32] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 1992, Supplement No. 4* (E/1992/24), chap. I, sect. C.

[33] Resolution S-23/2, annex, and resolution S-23/3, annex.

[34] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

Reaffirming that the Political Declaration and Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002,[35] provide a broad spectrum of social, political and economic recommendations to improve the conditions of older women,

Recognizing that older women outnumber older men, increasingly so with increasing age, and that the situation of older women everywhere must be a priority for policy action,

Aware that in order to ensure full equality between women and men it is essential to recognize the differential impact of ageing on women and men and to integrate a gender perspective into all policies, programmes and legislation,

Aware that women constitute the majority of older populations in all regions of the world and represent an important human resource whose contribution to society has not been fully recognized,

Recognizing the increasing role of older women in taking the responsibility of providing care and assistance to those infected and affected by the human immunodeficiency virus/acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (HIV/AIDS) in various regions of the world, particularly in developing countries,

Affirming the dual challenges of ageing and disability, and affirming also that older persons have specific health needs and that, owing to the increase in life expectancy and the growing number of older women, their health concerns require particular attention and further research,

Aware that few statistics are available on the situation of older women, and recognizing the importance of data, including data disaggregated by age and sex, as an essential element of planning and policy evaluations,

Recognizing that women of all ages, in particular older women, continue to suffer from discrimination and lack of opportunities, including educational opportunities,

Emphasizing that Governments bear the primary responsibility for creating an enabling environment for the economic and social development of their citizens, and noting with appreciation the valuable contributions of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in calling attention to the specific needs of older women,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing,[36] held at Madrid from 8 to 12 April 2002, and the report of the Secretary-General on the follow-up to the Second World Assembly on Ageing,[37] and calls for efforts to implement the global action plan aimed at meeting the challenges of the world's ageing population, in particular with regard to older women;

2. *Stresses* the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective, while continuing to take into account the needs of older women, in policy and planning processes at all levels;

---

[35] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4), chap. I, resolution 1, annexes I and II.

[36] *Report of the Second World Assembly on Ageing, Madrid, 8-12 April 2002* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.02.IV.4).

[37] A/57/93.

3. *Also stresses* the need to eliminate discrimination on the basis of gender and age and ensure equal rights and their full enjoyment for women of all ages;

4. *Urges* Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to promote programmes for healthy active ageing that stress the independence, equality, participation and security of older women and to undertake gender-specific research and programmes to address their needs;

5. *Emphasizes* the need for Governments and regional and international organizations, including the United Nations system and the international financial institutions, to develop and improve the collection, analysis and dissemination of data disaggregated by age and sex;

6. *Welcomes* the adoption in April 2002 by the Valencia Forum of research and academic professionals of the Research Agenda on Ageing for the Twenty-First century, to support the implementation of the Madrid International Plan of Action on Ageing, 2002;

7. *Urges* Governments to take measures to enable all older women to be actively engaged in all aspects of life by assuming a variety of roles in communities, public life and decision-making, and to develop and implement policies and programmes in cooperation with civil society, including non-governmental organizations, where appropriate, to ensure that older women can achieve their full enjoyment of human rights and quality of life, with a view to contributing to the realization of a society for all ages;

8. *Calls upon* Governments and the United Nations system to ensure that the needs, perspectives and experiences of older women are reflected in all development policies and programmes;

9. *Invites* Governments, the United Nations system and international organizations to consider, in their development planning, the increasing responsibilities of older women in providing care and assistance for those affected by HIV/AIDS;

10. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution IV
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 56/229 of 24 December 2001 and its previous resolutions on the elimination of discrimination against women,

Bearing in mind that one of the purposes of the United Nations, as stated in Articles 1 and 55 of the Charter, is to promote universal respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms for all without distinction of any kind, including distinction as to sex,

Affirming that women and men should participate equally in social, economic and political development, should contribute equally to such development and should share equally in improved conditions of life,

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action adopted by the World Conference on Human Rights on 25 June 1993,[38] in which the Conference reaffirmed that the human rights of women and the girl child were an inalienable, integral and indivisible part of universal human rights,

Acknowledging the need for a comprehensive and integrated approach to the promotion and protection of the human rights of women, which includes the integration of the human rights of women into the mainstream of United Nations activities system-wide,

Reaffirming the commitments made in the political declaration[39] and the outcome document[40] of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", in particular paragraphs 68 (*c*) and (*d*) concerning the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[41] and the Optional Protocol thereto,[42]

Recalling that, in the United Nations Millennium Declaration,[43] heads of State and Government resolved to implement the Convention,

Recognizing that the equal enjoyment by women of all human rights will promote the realization of the rights of the child, bearing in mind the special needs of girls, and acknowledging the mutual reinforcement of the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the Convention on the Rights of the Child[44] and the Optional Protocols thereto,[45]

Welcoming the progress made in the implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, but expressing concern about the remaining challenges,

Welcoming also the growing number of States parties to the Convention, which now stands at one hundred and seventy,

Welcoming further the entry into force on 22 December 2000 of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,

Bearing in mind the recommendation of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women that national reports should contain information on the implementation of the Beijing Platform for Action,[46] in accordance with paragraph 323 of the Platform,

---

[38] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.

[39] Resolution S-23/2, annex.

[40] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[41] Resolution 34/180, annex.

[42] Resolution 54/4, annex.

[43] See resolution 55/2.

[44] Resolution 44/25, annex.

[45] Resolution 54/263, annexes I and II.

[46] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

Having considered the report of the Committee on its twenty-sixth and twenty-seventh sessions,[47]

Expressing concern at the great number of reports that are overdue and that continue to be overdue, in particular initial reports, which constitutes an obstacle to the full implementation of the Convention,

1. *Welcomes* the report of the Secretary-General[48] on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;

2. *Expresses disappointment* that universal ratification of the Convention[41] was not achieved by 2000, and urges all States that have not yet ratified or acceded to the Convention to do so;

3. *Emphasizes* the importance of full compliance by States parties with their obligations under the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;[42]

4. *Welcomes* the rapidly growing number of States parties to the Optional Protocol, which now stands at forty-four, and urges other States parties to the Convention to consider signing and ratifying or acceding to the Optional Protocol;

5. *Also welcomes* the holding and successful outcome of the first informal meeting of States Parties, held in New York on 17 June 2002;

6. *Further welcomes* the fact that the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women has adopted the rules governing its work under the Optional Protocol as part of its revised rules of procedure;[49]

7. *Notes* that some States parties have modified their reservations, expresses satisfaction that some reservations have been withdrawn, and urges States parties to limit the extent of any reservations that they lodge to the Convention, to formulate any such reservations as precisely and as narrowly as possible, to ensure that no reservations are incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention, to review their reservations regularly with a view to withdrawing them and to withdraw reservations that are contrary to the object and purpose of the Convention;

8. *Welcomes* the adoption by the Committee of new reporting guidelines,[50] in particular on the length of reports of States parties and the streamlining of their structure and content;

9. *Recalls* the great number of overdue reports, in particular initial reports, and urges States parties to the Convention to make every possible effort to submit their reports on the implementation of the Convention in a timely manner in accordance with article 18 thereof;

10. *Encourages* the Secretariat to extend further technical assistance to States parties, upon their request, in the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports, and invites Governments to contribute to these efforts;

11. *Invites* States parties to make use of the technical assistance provided by the Secretariat to facilitate the preparation of reports, in particular initial reports;

---

[47] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/57/38).

[48] A/57/406 and Corr.1.

[49] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifty-sixth Session, Supplement No. 38* (A/56/38), annex I.

[50] A/57/38 (Part II), annex.

12. *Expresses its satisfaction* to the Committee for successfully having addressed the large number of reports that awaited consideration by the Committee during the extraordinary session held in August 2002;

13. *Commends* the Committee on its contributions to the effective implementation of the Convention;

14. *Strongly urges* States parties to the Convention to take appropriate measures so that acceptance of the amendment to article 20, paragraph 1, of the Convention by a two-thirds majority of States parties can be reached as soon as possible so that the amendment may enter into force;

15. *Expresses its appreciation* for the efforts made by the Committee to improve the efficiency of its working methods and for the holding, from 22 to 24 April 2002, of the seminar on the working methods of the Committee, and encourages the Committee to continue further efforts in this regard;

16. *Also expresses its appreciation* for the participation of the Committee in the first inter-committee meeting of the human rights treaty bodies on methods of work relating to the State reporting process;

17. *Encourages* the Committee, within its mandate, to continue to contribute to the efforts to strengthen cooperation and coordination between the treaty bodies;

18. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in accordance with General Assembly resolution 54/4 of 6 October 1999, to provide the resources, including staff and facilities, necessary for the effective functioning of the Committee within its full mandate, taking into account in particular the entry into force of the Optional Protocol;

19. *Urges* Governments, organizations and bodies of the United Nations system and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to disseminate the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

20. *Encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system, within their mandates, as well as Governments, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and, in particular, women's organizations, as appropriate, to continue to assist States parties, upon their request, in implementing the Convention, and in this regard encourages States parties to pay attention to the concluding comments as well as the general recommendations of the Committee;

21. *Also encourages* all relevant entities of the United Nations system to continue to build women's knowledge and understanding of and capacity to utilize human rights instruments, in particular the Convention and the Optional Protocol thereto;

22. *Welcomes* the submission by the specialized agencies, at the invitation of the Committee, of reports on the implementation of the Convention in areas falling within the scope of their activities and the contribution of non-governmental organizations to the work of the Committee, and encourages the specialized agencies to continue to submit reports;

23. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session a report on the status of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women and the implementation of the present resolution.

Draft resolution V
Working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour

The General Assembly,

Reaffirming the obligation of all States to promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms, including the right to life, liberty and security of person, as stated in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,[51] and reaffirming also the obligations of States parties under human rights instruments, in particular the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,[52] the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights,[52] the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women[53] and the Convention on the Rights of the Child,[54]

Recalling the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action[55] and the Declaration on the Elimination of Violence against Women,[56] as well as the Beijing Declaration[57] and Platform for Action[58] adopted at the Fourth World Conference on Women, and the outcome document of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[59]

Bearing in mind that crimes against women committed in the name of honour are a human rights issue and that States have an obligation to exercise due diligence to prevent, investigate and punish the perpetrators of such crimes and to provide protection to the victims, and that not doing so violates and impairs or nullifies the enjoyment of their human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Stressing the need to treat all forms of violence against women and girls, including crimes committed in the name of honour, as a criminal offence, punishable by law,

Aware that inadequate understanding of the root causes of all violence against women, including crimes committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, and inadequate data on such violence hinder informed policy analysis, at both the domestic and the international levels, and efforts to eliminate such violence,

Deeply concerned that women and girls are victims of these crimes, as described in the relevant sections of the reports of the Human Rights Committee, the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, the Committee on the Rights of the Child and the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, and notes in this regard the relevant parts of the report of the Special Rapporteur of

---

[51] See resolution 217 A (III).
[52] See resolution 2200 A (XXI), annex.
[53] Resolution 34/180, annex.
[54] Resolution 44/25, annex.
[55] A/CONF.157/24 (Part I), chap. III.
[56] See resolution 48/104.
[57] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.
[58] Ibid., annex II.
[59] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

the Commission on Human Rights on violence against women, its causes and consequences,[60]

Emphasizing that such crimes are incompatible with all religious and cultural values,

Bearing in mind Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/52 of 23 April 2002,[61]

Emphasizing that the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour requires greater efforts and commitment on the part of Governments and the international community, inter alia, through international cooperation efforts, and civil society, including non-governmental organizations, and that fundamental changes in societal attitude are required,

Underlining the importance of the empowerment of women and their effective participation in decision-making and policy-making processes as one of the critical tools to eliminate and prevent crimes against women committed in the name of honour,

1. *Welcomes*:

(a) The activities and initiatives of States aimed at the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the adoption of amendments to relevant national laws relating to such crimes, the effective implementation of such laws and educational, social and other measures, including national information and awareness-raising campaigns, as well as activities and initiatives of States aimed at the elimination of all other forms of violence against women;

(b) The efforts, such as projects, undertaken by United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, including the United Nations Population Fund, the United Nations Children's Fund and the United Nations Development Fund for Women, to address the issue of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, and encourages them to coordinate their efforts;

(c) The work carried out by civil society, including non-governmental organizations, such as women's organizations, grass-roots movements and individuals, in raising awareness of such crimes and their harmful effects;

2. *Expresses its concern* that women continue to be victims of crimes committed in the name of honour, and at the continuing occurrence in all regions of the world of such violence, which takes many different forms, and at failures to prosecute and punish perpetrators;

3. *Calls upon* all States:

(a) To fulfil their obligations under the relevant international human rights instruments and to implement the Beijing Declaration[57] and Platform for Action[58] and the outcome document of the twenty-third special session of the General Assembly;[59]

---

[60] E/CN.4/2002/83.

[61] *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

(b) To continue to intensify efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, which take many different forms, by using legislative, administrative and programmatic measures;

(c) To investigate promptly and thoroughly, prosecute effectively and document cases of crimes against women committed in the name of honour and punish the perpetrators;

(d) To take all necessary measures to ensure that such crimes are not tolerated;

(e) To intensify efforts to raise awareness of the need to prevent and eliminate crimes against women committed in the name of honour, with the aim of changing the attitudes and behaviour that allow such crimes to be committed by involving, inter alia, community leaders;

(f) To encourage the efforts of the media to engage in awareness-raising campaigns;

(g) To encourage, support and implement measures and programmes aimed at increasing the knowledge and understanding of the causes and consequences of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, including the provision of training for those responsible for enforcing the law, such as police personnel, judicial and legal personnel, and to strengthen their capacity to respond to complaints of such crimes in an impartial and effective manner and take necessary measures to ensure the protection of actual and potential victims;

(h) To continue to support the work of civil society, including non-governmental organizations, in addressing this issue and to strengthen cooperation with intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;

(i) To establish, strengthen or facilitate, where possible, support services to respond to the needs of actual and potential victims by, inter alia, providing for them the appropriate protection, safe shelter, counselling, legal aid, health-care services, rehabilitation and reintegration into society;

(j) To address effectively complaints of crimes against women committed in the name of honour, inter alia, by creating, strengthening or facilitating institutional mechanisms so that victims and others can report such crimes in a safe and confidential environment;

(k) To gather and disseminate statistical information on the occurrence of such crimes, including information disaggregated by age;

(l) To include, if within their reporting obligations, information on legal and policy measures adopted and implemented in their efforts to prevent and eliminate crimes committed against women in the name of honour, where appropriate, in their reports to the treaty bodies, including the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women;

4. *Invites*:

(a) The international community, including relevant United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, inter alia, through technical assistance and advisory services programmes, to support the efforts of all countries, at their request, aimed at

strengthening institutional capacity for preventing crimes against women committed in the name of honour and at addressing the root causes of such crimes;

(b) The relevant human rights treaty bodies to continue to address this issue, where appropriate;

(c) The Commission on the Status of Women to address this subject at its forty-seventh session under the priority theme "Women's human rights and the elimination of all forms of violence against women and girls, as defined in the Beijing Platform for Action and the outcome documents of the special session of the General Assembly entitled 'Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century'";

5. *Takes note* of the report of the Secretary-General on working towards the elimination of crimes against women committed in the name of honour;[62]

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General to include in his report on the issue of elimination of violence against women to be submitted to the General Assembly at its fifty-ninth session a substantive report on the subject of the present resolution, based on all available data, containing an analysis of the root causes of these crimes, supportive statistical data, where available, and information on initiatives taken by States.

Draft resolution VI
Improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system

The General Assembly,

Recalling Articles 1 and 101 of the Charter of the United Nations, as well as Article 8, which provides that the United Nations shall place no restrictions on the eligibility of men and women to participate in any capacity and under conditions of equality in its principal and subsidiary organs,

Recalling also the goal, contained in the Platform for Action adopted by the Fourth World Conference on Women,[63] of achieving overall gender equality, particularly at the Professional level and above, by 2000 and the further actions and initiatives set out in the outcome document adopted by the General Assembly at its special session entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century",[64]

Recalling further its resolution 56/127 of 19 December 2001 on the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system,

Taking note of Commission on Human Rights resolution 2002/50 of 23 April 2002 on integrating the human rights of women throughout the United Nations system,[65] in particular paragraph 14, in which the Commission recognized that gender mainstreaming would strongly benefit from the enhanced and full

[62] A/57/169.

[63] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex II.

[64] Resolution S-23/3, annex.

[65] See *Official Records of the Economic and Social Council, 2002, Supplement No. 3* (E/2002/23), chap. II, sect. A.

participation of women, including at the higher levels of decision-making in the United Nations system,

Welcoming the report of the Secretary-General on women, peace and security[66] and the open debate held in the Security Council on 25 July 2002 on women and peace and security,[67]

Taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries, including least developed countries and small island developing States, and from countries with economies in transition,

Noting with appreciation those departments and offices that have achieved the goal of gender balance, as well as those departments that have met or exceeded the goal of 50 per cent in the selection of women candidates for vacant posts in the past year,

Welcoming the 4 per cent increase in the number of women at the D-2 level, which brings the proportion of women at that level to 22.3 per cent, but expressing concern that at other senior levels of the Secretariat the proportion of women has decreased overall since 1998 to only 10.5 per cent of Under-Secretaries-General and 12.5 per cent of Assistant Secretaries-General,

Expressing concern that only one of the fifty-one special representatives and envoys of the Secretary-General is a woman, and expressing regret that the number of women heading United Nations agencies has been halved, from six to three, and also that the percentage of women assigned to peace operations has decreased,

Taking note of the report of the Office of Internal Oversight Services of the Secretariat on possible discrimination due to nationality, race, sex, religion and language in recruitment, promotion and placement,[68]

Concerned at the finding of the Office of Internal Oversight Services that the proportion of women separating from the Organization increased from 42 per cent in 1998 to 48 per cent in 2001, that at most levels women are reappointed less frequently than men, and that at these rates the Organization is unlikely to meet its gender parity target without concerted efforts to recruit females and retain the female staff currently employed,

Noting that the statistics on the representation of women in some organizations of the United Nations system are not fully up to date,

1. *Takes note with appreciation* of the report of the Secretary-General[69] and the actions described therein;

2. *Regrets* that the goal of 50/50 gender distribution was not met by the end of 2000, and urges the Secretary-General to redouble his efforts to realize significant progress towards this goal in the near future;

3. *Reaffirms* the urgent goal of achieving 50/50 gender distribution in all categories of posts within the United Nations system, especially at senior and

[66] S/2002/1154.
[67] See S/PV.4589 and Resumption 1.
[68] See A/56/956.
[69] A/57/447.

policy-making levels, with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter of the United Nations, and also taking into account the continuing lack of representation or underrepresentation of women from certain countries, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition;

4. *Expresses concern* that in four departments and offices of the Secretariat women still account for less than 30 per cent of staff, and encourages the Secretary-General to intensify his efforts to meet the goal of gender balance within all departments and offices of the Secretariat;

5. *Welcomes*:

(a) The ongoing personal commitment of the Secretary-General to meeting the goal of gender equality and his assurance that gender balance will be given the highest priority in his continuing efforts to bring about a new management culture in the Organization;

(b) The pledge of the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to intensify their efforts to meet the gender equality goals set out in the Beijing Declaration[70] and Platform for Action;[63]

(c) The inclusion of the objective of improving gender balance in action plans on human resources management for individual departments and offices, and encourages further cooperation, including the sharing of best-practice initiatives, between heads of departments and offices, the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women and the Office of Human Resources Management of the Secretariat in the implementation of those plans, which include specific targets and strategies for improving the representation of women in individual departments;

(d) The decision, within the context of the new staff selection system,[71] to hold heads of departments and offices accountable for meeting the gender targets in departmental human resource action plans through their performance compacts;

(e) The continuing designation of focal points for women in the United Nations system, and requests the Secretary-General to ensure that focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full access to senior management, including both at Headquarters and in the field;

(f) The continuing provision of specific training programmes on gender mainstreaming and gender issues in the workplace, tailored to meet the special needs of individual departments, commends those heads of departments and offices who have launched gender training for their managers and staff, and strongly encourages those who have not yet organized such training to do so by the end of the biennium;

6. *Requests* the Secretary-General, in order to achieve and maintain the goal of 50/50 gender distribution with full respect for the principle of equitable geographical distribution, in conformity with Article 101, paragraph 3, of the Charter:

(a) To continue to develop innovative recruitment strategies to identify and attract suitably qualified women candidates, particularly from and in developing

[70] *Report of the Fourth World Conference on Women, Beijing, 4-15 September 1995* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.96.IV.13), chap. I, resolution 1, annex I.

[71] See ST/AI/2002/4.

countries and countries with economies in transition and other Member States that are unrepresented or underrepresented in the Secretariat, and in occupations in which women are underrepresented;

(b) To encourage the United Nations system and its agencies and departments to make more effective use of existing information technology resources and systems and other established methods to disseminate information about employment opportunities for women and to better coordinate rosters of potential women candidates;

(c) To continue to monitor closely the progress made by departments and offices in meeting the goal of gender balance, to ensure that the appointment and promotion of suitably qualified women will not be less than 50 per cent of all appointments and promotions until the goal of 50/50 gender distribution is met;

(d) To strongly encourage heads of departments and offices to continue selecting female candidates when their qualifications are the same as, or better than, those of male candidates, and to effectively encourage, monitor and assess the performance of managers in meeting targets for improving women's representation;

(e) To encourage consultation by heads of departments and offices with departmental focal points on women during the selection process and to ensure that the focal points are designated at a sufficiently high level and enjoy full and effective access to senior management;

(f) To enable the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Issues and Advancement of Women, as outlined in the Beijing Platform for Action, to effectively contribute to, monitor and facilitate the setting and implementation of gender targets in human resource action plans, including by ensuring access to the information required to carry out that work;

(g) To intensify his efforts to create, within existing resources, a gender-sensitive work environment supportive of the needs of his staff, both women and men, by, inter alia, actively pursuing appropriate work/life policies, such as flexible working time, flexible workplace arrangements, career development and childcare and elder-care needs, and by providing more comprehensive information to prospective candidates and new recruits on employment opportunities for spouses, providing support for the activities of women's networks and organizations within the United Nations system and expanding gender-sensitivity training in all departments, offices and duty stations;

(h) To continue to work to further strengthen the policy against harassment, including sexual harassment, by, inter alia, ensuring the full implementation of the guidelines for its application at Headquarters and in the field, including in peacekeeping operations, and further requests the early issuance of the directive on sexual harassment prepared by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat for use in peacekeeping and other field missions, as well as user-friendly guidelines on sexual harassment to be prepared for the United Nations system by the Office of the Special Adviser on Gender Affairs and Advancement of Women and the inter-agency working group;

(i) To undertake further analysis of the probable causes of the slow advance in the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system, as outlined

in paragraph 56 of his report,[69] to institute remedial measures, and to report on progress made in this context to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session;

7. *Strongly encourages* the Secretary-General to renew his efforts to appoint more women as special representatives and envoys to pursue good offices on his behalf, especially in matters related to peacekeeping, peace-building, preventive diplomacy and economic and social development, as well as in operational activities, and to appoint more women as resident coordinators and to other high-level positions;

8. *Encourages* the Secretary-General and the executive heads of the organizations of the United Nations system to continue to develop common approaches for retaining women, promoting inter-agency mobility and improving career development opportunities;

9. *Encourages* the United Nations and Member States to continue to implement the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly entitled "Women 2000: gender equality, development and peace for the twenty-first century", pertaining to the improvement of the status of women in the United Nations system;[64]

10. *Strongly encourages* Member States:

(a) To support the efforts of the United Nations and the specialized agencies to achieve the goal of 50/50 gender distribution, especially at senior and policy-making levels, by identifying and regularly submitting more women candidates for appointment to positions in the United Nations system, by identifying and proposing national recruitment sources that will assist the organizations of the United Nations system in identifying suitable women candidates, in particular from developing countries and countries with economies in transition, and by encouraging more women to apply for positions within the Secretariat, the specialized agencies, funds and programmes and the regional commissions, including in areas in which women are underrepresented, such as peacekeeping, peace-building and other non-traditional areas;

(b) To identify women candidates for assignment to peacekeeping missions and to improve the representation of women in military and civilian police contingents;

(c) To identify and submit regularly more women candidates for appointment or election to intergovernmental, expert and treaty bodies;

(d) To identify and nominate more women candidates for appointment or election as judges or other senior officials in international courts and tribunals;

11. *Requests* the Secretary-General to report to the Commission on the Status of Women at its forty-seventh session and to the General Assembly at its fifty-eighth session on the implementation of the present resolution, including by providing up-to-date statistics on the number and percentage of women in all organizational units and at all levels throughout the United Nations system, as well as gender-segregated attrition rates for all organizational units and at all levels, and on the implementation of departmental action plans for the achievement of gender balance.

* * *

35. The Third Committee also recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft decision:

Document submitted in connection with the question of the advancement of women

The General Assembly takes note of the note by the Secretary-General on the situation of the International Research and Training Institute for the Advancement of Women.[72]

[72] A/57/129-E/2002/77.